

DIES IN A FIRE.

Robt. D. Emens, a Photographer
Burned to Death.

E. E. Babcock Acting Fire Chief
Badly Hurt.

HEAVY PROPERTY LOSS

Believed That It Will Exceed
Thirty Thousand.

Started in Furniture Store at
423 Kansas Avenue.

One man lost his life, the acting fire chief was painfully injured and about \$30,000 damages resulted in a fire at 1 o'clock this morning that raged for several hours in the buildings at 417, 419, 421 and 423 Kansas avenue.



Scene of the Disastrous Fire on Kansas Avenue Early This Morning. X Building in Which Robert Emens Was Burned to Death.

The fire burned out one building and burned under the "steambath" roof of the other buildings, making it almost impossible for the fire department to work effectively.

Robert D. Emens, a photographer with a gallery in the second story of the building at 423 Kansas avenue, was suffocated by smoke. He was found in the toilet room wrapped in a blanket, where he had fallen to sleep the night before. No evidence of a struggle were discovered—it is believed that he died from suffocation while asleep.



Robert D. Emens, Who Was Burned to Death Last Night.

E. E. Babcock, acting fire chief in the absence of Chief Wilmarth, was painfully injured about the head and shoulders when a skylight in the rear of the Crocker furniture store fell on him. Chief Babcock narrowly escaped death. His thoughtful action in ducking down between a table and show-case when he heard the crash saved his life. Big beams and hundreds of pounds of glass and debris fell over him.

He was removed to his home, where he is resting comfortably today. The fire was discovered by E. H. Hicks, a merchant watchman at 12:55. He said he saw first a small fire in the rear of the building through one window where a curtain was raised. He turned in the alarm from the Ives turning establishment a few doors north. When he returned, he said, the curtain through which he had discovered the fire, was drawn.

The first companies of the fire department arrived a few minutes later. When the rounded the corner of Sixth and Kansas avenue, they saw flames breaking through the roof of the building at 423 Kansas avenue. Going to the rear of the building the firemen found every door open.

Fire Was Incendiary. This leads the theory of an incendiary origin to the fire. The evidence from the merchant policeman saying that the curtain was pulled down and the fact that the firemen found wide open doors in the rear is suspicious.

Two years ago a fire in this area, burning in three or four different places at the same time, aroused the suspicions of Chief Wilmarth, but no action was taken by the city or the insurance companies.

No charges have been filed in this fire—the only suspicions of an incendiary origin are floating around. The fire was a difficult one to fight. The buildings are all old—built about thirty years ago. They are 20 feet long on the ground and 50 feet long in the second story. Light is given through "steambath" decks on the roofs. The buildings are cut up into

KILLS FOR LOVE.

Former Kansan Slays Woman
Who Spurns His Affection.

Turns Revolver on Himself and
Falls on Her Body.

ONCE DRIVEN AWAY.

Calls Victim to Death on Promise
of Money.

Twelve Year Old Boy Only Witness
to Shooting.

Kansas City, Aug. 31.—Crazed by the stubborn refusal of Mrs. Margaret Gossard, 28 years old, to live with him, John Herron, 27 years old, a railroad man, formerly of Ottawa and Quebec,



John Herron, Who Killed Mrs. Gossard.

undertaking rooms of J. J. Sheehan, Thirty-first and Main, it will be taken to Quenemo, Quenemo county, Kansas, for burial, according to the written request found in the youth's pocket and directed to the coroner. Quenemo was the place of his birth.

The dead woman was a sister-in-law of Ruth Gossard, the 16-year-old Argentine high school girl who was found January 12, in a rooming house on West Fourteenth street in company with Dr. J. O. Gaskill, former mayor and banker of Argentine. She had much to do in locating Gaskill who escaped from the rooming house when the officers entered. Since Gaskill's arrest and although she was separated from her husband, Elmer Gossard, she had worked incessantly gathering evidence to be used in the trial of Gaskill in the federal court. She also had much to do with the suit being filed against Gaskill by her father-in-law to recover \$50,000 damages for entailing the girl from one state to another for immoral purposes.

Herron was drunk when he went to Mrs. Gossard's home. According to Mrs. Millie Deeds, a manicure living across the hall, Mrs. Gossard saw Herron approaching the house. She called to Mrs. Deeds to lock the doors. "Jack is coming," she told Mrs. Deeds, "and I don't want any trouble." In response to Herron's call, Mrs. Gossard went to the bottom of the stairway, which leads to the street. Herron became abusive. The woman told him she would make Herron go away and he called him outside. Herron responded good naturedly.

Called Second Time. Herron went away but returned within a few minutes and again called Mrs. Gossard to the bottom of the stairs on the pretext that he would pay her \$50 he owed her for board. Before she would agree to see him, the woman told him she would come down if he would pay her.

Then two shots were heard. Running to the stairs, Tarpley found the body of Mrs. Gossard, face down, time ago. Her body lay prostrate, blood gushing from a wound 'a the side of his head.

Herron's body was dragged to the sidewalk and Tarpley washed the blood from Mrs. Gossard's face, thinking she had been shot in the head. She died before he had finished.

Facette Deeds, the 12-year-old son of Mrs. Millie Deeds, was the only eyewitness to the shooting. With his mother he had gone to the head of the stairs, believing that Herron meant to make trouble. Mrs. Deeds had turned back and gone into her apartments and the boy stood in the door at the head of the stairs when he saw the shooting. One following immediately after the other.

"I do not know whether or not Herron had ever threatened Mrs. Gossard," said Mrs. Deeds this morning. "She and I were very close friends, but she had never told me of his having made threats. She came down time ago and told me so I could teach her the manicure business. She had become proficient and had just purchased an outfit of instruments. I was trying to get her to go to the Kupper hotel and she had been promised a place there."

"When Herron made his first call, Mrs. Gossard and I were just getting ready to go downtown to some of the nickel shows. She had said she wanted to get out of the house for a while and Herron came while we were preparing to go out."

Mrs. Gossard while she was conducting a small rooming and boarding house. When he left her place, he told her \$50, according to Mrs. Gossard's statement to Mrs. Deeds, and it was on the pretext of paying this amount that he had gained admission to Mrs. Gossard's apartments on several occasions recently. After getting in, he would invariably plead with her to live with him; and it was because of his intimation that Mrs. Gossard feared trouble.

The dead woman's mother, Mrs. A. E. Markle of Chanute, Kan., and two brothers, J. Fletcher Markle of Chanute and A. B. Markle, a drug clerk at Parsons, Kan., arrived Wednesday night after learning of her death. Her husband, E. L. Gossard, a brakeman, was located at Emporia, Kan., while on his run and notified of the killing. A sister, Mrs. A. L. Beardsley, living in Chicago, will arrive in Kansas City soon and accompany the family and body to Quenemo, where it will be taken this evening for burial.

Mrs. Gossard had been married before her marriage to Gossard. Her first husband was Hal Brown, a Santa Fe conductor, who lives in Fort Madison, Iowa. Herron's body was removed to the

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Another day of slow and unpleasant travel greeted the little knot of lawyers and witnesses as they made the journey from Richmond to Chesterfield Court House. The incessant drizzling of yesterday and the steady downpour during the night brought streams to overflowing and made the roads a mass of mire.

The 12 jurors, housed in a small hotel a few yards from the court house were forced to abandon their usual morning stroll into the country for exercise and some of them occupied themselves with matching coins on the veranda while others indulged in song. One of their number, J. H. Purdie, was treated last night for a toothache but with this exception the health of the jury remains good today. Permission to attend the sick jurymen had to be obtained from Judge Watson who, before granting it, conferred with counsel for both sides. In view of the rumors of yesterday that one of the jurymen had been found to be a person friend of the accused, the jurymen were kept safely guarded from any possible attack.

Will Attack the Evidence. The defense was prepared to resume its attack on the evidence presented for the commonwealth and a score of witnesses were summoned to appear today to testify as to the various points of the case which the prosecution built up to support its charge that Henry Clay Beattie killed his wife with the shotgun purchased for him by his cousin Paul.

Inasmuch as the accused and his cousin Paul were alone not only at the time of the alleged transfer of the gun from Paul to Henry and at the conversation on the day subsequent to the commission of the crime when Henry is alleged to have told Paul that he was "sorry he had done it," the case has resolved itself into a question of veracity between the cousins.

Paul already has given his testimony and the defense from now to the end of the trial, which is expected to be some time next week will occupy itself with efforts to break down his story through attacks on his character and reputation for truthfulness. This will be reinforced by the testimony of the prisoner himself who will take the stand at the last moment and is expected to deny the denial he made before the coroner's inquest that he not only took no part in the purchase of any gun but that he made no such confession as is alleged by Paul.

Already the defense has introduced testimony intended to support the prisoner's story that the murder was committed by a bearded highwayman and has endeavored to show that a man with a shotgun was seen prowling around on the Midlothian turnpike, a few hours before the murder.

Harry M. Smith, Jr., counsel for Beattie, today put an end to rumors that ultimately insanity would be offered as a defense for the prisoner, by making a definite announcement that under no circumstances would such a plea be entered. It was the announced intention of the defense to ask that the jury visit the scene of the crime but the muddy roads may cause a postponement of this for several days.

Pawnbroker Is Called. David Weinstein, son of the pawnbroker from whom Paul Beattie purchased the shotgun, was the first witness for the defense today. "I don't know where you were the boy who sold that gun to Paul Beattie," asked Harry M. Smith, Jr., counsel for the defendant.

"You were not summoned by the prosecution?" "No." "Paul Beattie testified that you took the gun apart into three pieces and wrapped it up in paper and put his name on it. What did you say about it?" "I did not take it apart. It was a very old fashioned gun and I didn't know how."

"The gun was produced at this point. 'That time of day,' continued Mr. Smith, 'did you sell the gun to Paul Beattie?'" "Saturday morning between 10 and 12."

"When you sold the gun to Paul Beattie did he say he was a watchman and wanted the gun to be used on Mayo bridge where he worked?" "He did."

"Did you know Paul Beattie before that Saturday?" "Yes, a little more than a week." "How did you become acquainted with him?" "He worked for Mr. Stegler, nearby, and came in one day to buy a pistol. I told him we did not have any."

Paul had previously testified that the only time he had entered the pawn shop before was to borrow a dollar and got it. The witness denied having told him a dollar and added that Paul had been in the pawn shop four or five times.

Cross Examination. On cross examination Mr. Weinstein asked: "Do you remember on the Saturday after the homicide coming to the hospital where Paul Beattie was and telling me that he had been in the pawn shop four or five times?"

THE WEATHER RECORD.

Observations of the United States weather bureau for the 24 hours ending at 7 o'clock this morning:

Stations.	High.	Low.	Rain.
Albuquerque, N. M.	62	48	0
Boston, Mass.	50	46	.34
Buffalo, N. Y.	62	50	0
Calgary, Alberta	62	50	0
Chicago, Ill.	65	60	0
Concordia, Kan.	56	62	0
Corpus Christi, Tex.	86	74	0
Denver, Col.	80	58	0
Des Moines, Ia.	78	58	0
Dodge City, Kan.	88	62	0
Dresden, Kan.	96	56	0
Duluth, Minn.	66	50	0
Emmonston, Wyo.	70	44	.12
Fort Scott, Kan.	82	50	0
Ft. Worth, Tex.	86	64	0
Galveston, Tex.	82	62	0
Hartford, Conn.	58	46	0
Hays, Kan.	92	56	0
Horton, Kan.	82	56	0
Iola, Kan.	86	60	0
Kansas City, Mo.	84	68	0
Little Rock, Ark.	78	62	0
Louisville, Ky.	76	68	0
Maeksville, Kan.	88	56	0
MacPherson, Kan.	80	58	0
Manhattan, Kan.	88	56	0
New Orleans, La.	88	74	0
New York	68	54	1.84
North Platte, Neb.	80	50	0
Oldham, Mo.	88	62	0
Oklahoma, Ok.	88	62	0
Omaha, Neb.	82	62	0
Osage City, Kan.	82	74	0
Phoenix, Ariz.	84	64	0
Pittsburg, Pa.	62	56	0
Portland, Ore.	84	64	0
Prince Albert, Sask.	52	46	0
Rapid City, S. D.	68	54	0
Rawlston, Wyo.	66	54	0
St. Joseph, Mo.	82	62	0
St. Louis	76	60	.34
St. Paul, Minn.	66	62	0
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San Diego, Cal.	76	60	0
San Francisco, Cal.	66	58	0
Seattle, Wash.	76	52	0
Shenandoah, Wyo.	86	52	0
Swift Current, Assin	80	48	0
Toledo, O.	66	58	0
Union City, N. J.	64	61	0
Toronto, Kan.	80	50	0
Washington, D. C.	32	38	1.08
Wichita, Kan.	86	62	0

T. JENNINGS,
Section Director.

MANY FAST HORSES.

They Will Participate in Topeka State Fair Races.

There were forty-six fast horses entered when the entries for the purse races in connection with the Kansas State Fair association closed. The horses this year are entered from all over the country and the fastest races in the history of Topeka's fairs are expected.

Secretary H. L. Cook emphasizes the fact that Monday will be one of the best days on which to visit the fair. On this day children and all old soldiers will be admitted free.

The program both as regards the races and the musical and other entertainment will be just as attractive on this day as later on in the week."

This will give them an excellent opportunity to inspect the entries in the women's departments at their leisure without being jammed and pushed about by hundreds of other persons who are eager to see what is on display in these departments.

"All exhibits will be in place at this time and there will be a freshness about everything that will not be observed later in the week. I want to impress upon the people the excellence of the sacred concerts which will be given on Sunday, morning and evening, September 10, by Liberati's band."

DEATH LIST IS 17.

A Million Dollar Property Loss by Southern Storms.

Charleston, Aug. 31.—Mayor Rhett is directing the work of rehabilitating storm-swept Charleston. A campaign of repairing and disinfecting is going on. Today the death list was 17 and the property damage estimate remains at a million dollars.

Repossession of damaged cars that only two lives were lost. The victims were caught on James Island. The property damage is very heavy. It is said by planters that long staple cotton and rice have been almost wiped out. Houses have been wrecked and cattle and live stock killed.

Reports of damage at the Isle of Pines, a resort directly on the ocean nine miles from here, were exaggerated. Buildings were not as badly damaged as believed. Normal conditions are being rapidly restored.

BASEBALL WEATHER.
Topeka at Pueblo, clear, 3:30.
Lincoln at Denver, clear, 3:30.
Omaha at Sioux City, clear, 3:45.
Des Moines at St. Joseph, clear, 3:45.

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